

## In the Claims

All claims have been reproduced below for the convenience of the Examiner.

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and a at least one CIM repository, said method comprising:

creating a connection between said object manager and said at least one CIM repository repositories wherein each of the CIM repositories has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository and its associated communication protocol;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to a the repository application programming (API), said protocol indicator identifying a the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager ~~may~~ communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol over said connection to said CIM repository; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol.

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3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said associated communication protocol is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said CIM repository is resident on said host computer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said CIM repository is resident on a separate computer.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes

calling a JAVA factory class.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer system for interacting with at least one CIM repository ~~database~~, said system comprising:

a CIM object manager including a CIM repository indicator, an associated communication protocol indicator, and program code for interacting with said at least one CIM repository; and

a repository application programming interface (~~repository~~ API) including

a factory class arranged to receive said CIM repository indicator and said associated communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager and to produce a protocol-specific object,

a first class having methods defined thereon implemented in a first protocol, and

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a second class having methods defined thereon implemented in a second protocol, whereby said protocol-specific object may be returned to said CIM object manager for use in interacting with said at least one CIM repository.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 wherein said CIM object manager is arranged to receive a method call from a management application using the associated communication protocol identified by said associated communication protocol indicator.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 wherein said at least one CIM repository is resident on said computer system.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 wherein said computer system and said CIM repository are connected over a network connection implemented in the associated communication protocol identified by said associated communication protocol indicator.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 wherein the associated communication protocol identified by said associated communication protocol indicator is selected from the group consisting of: LDAP, JDBC or JAVA.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 further comprising:

a plurality of CIM repositories, each repository arranged to communicate with said CIM object manager using a different associated communication protocol.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 wherein each CIM repository is resident on a different computer.

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14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising computer code for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and a at least one CIM repository repositories,, said computer code of said computer-readable medium effecting the following:

creating a connection between said object manager and said at least one CIM repository repositories wherein each of the CIM repositories has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository and its associated communication protocol;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to a the repository application programming (API), said protocol indicator identifying a the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager ~~may communicates~~ with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising computer code for effecting the following:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol over said connection to said CIM repository; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol.

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16. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said associated communication protocol is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes  
calling a JAVA factory class.

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